



UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
United States Patent and Trademark Office
Address: COMMISSIONER OF PATENTS AND TRADEMARKS
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450
www.uspto.gov

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/586,525	06/02/2000	Ying-Chou Tsai	JCLA5827	6171

7590
J C Patents Inc
4 Venture
Suite 250
Irvine, CA 92618

05/06/2003

EXAMINER

NADAV, ORI

ART UNIT PAPER NUMBER

2811

DATE MAILED: 05/06/2003

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/586,525

Applicant(s)

TSAI ET AL.

Examiner

ori nadav

Art Unit

2811

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 26 March 2003.
- 2a) ☒ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-5 and 7-16 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-5 and 7-16 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
- Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
- 11) ☐ The proposed drawing correction filed on _____ is: a) ☐ approved b) ☐ disapproved by the Examiner.
- If approved, corrected drawings are required in reply to this Office action.
- 12) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 119 and 120

- 13) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
- ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 - ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 - ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.
- 14) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) (to a provisional application).
- a) ☐ The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.
- 15) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121.

Attachment(s)

- ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s) _____
- ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s) _____
- ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- ☐ Other: _____

Art Unit: 2811

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

1. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which the subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

2. Claims 1, 5, 7, 11-13 and 15-16 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Lach et al. (6,108,212) in view of Sakai et al. (5,894,984).

Lach et al. teach in figure 1 and related text a substrate structure of flip chip package comprising a plurality of patterned circuit layer 22 connected by vias 30, at least an insulative layer 14 stacked between the patterned circuit layers for isolating the patterned circuit layers, and the patterned circuit layers are electrically connected one another, and one of the patterned circuit layer is positioned on the surface of the substrate of the flip chip package as a top patterned circuit layer, and the top patterned circuit layer comprises at least a plurality of first mounting pads 27 and plurality of a second mounting pads 26 (figures 6, 8) and a solder mask layer 42 (figure 2) covering the patterned circuit layer on the surface of the substrate of the flip chip package, the solder mask layer partially covering a first top surface of the first mounting pads 27 while entirely exposing a second top surface and sidewalls of the first mounting pads 26

Art Unit: 2811

and the whole surface of the second mounting pad, wherein the first mounting pads 27 are disposed at a periphery region of the substrate (figure 1), and a chip 12 having an active surface with a plurality of bumps 64 disposed thereon wherein the chip has its active surface face to the surface of the substrate 14 of the flip chip package, and the bumps are electrically connected to their corresponding first bonding pads and second bonding pads respectively and an underfill material filling between the active surface of the chip and the top surface of the substrate of the flip chip package, wherein the bumps attach only to the top surface of the first mounting pads.

Although Lach et al. do not state that the first mounting pads 27 are disposed on the periphery region of the substrate, figure 1 depicts first mounting pads 27 are disposed at the edge of the substrate. Therefore, the first mounting pads 27 are disposed on the periphery region of the substrate, as claimed.

The embodiment of figure 1 of Lach et al. does not depict the layout of the mounting pads, wherein the first mounting pads surround all of the second mounting pads which are located at a central region of the substrate.

Sakai et al. teach in figure 6a a layout of mounting pads, wherein the first mounting pads 8b surround all of the second mounting pads 8a which are located at a central region of the substrate. It would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to use a layout of mounting pads in Lach et al.'s device, wherein the first mounting pads surround all of the second mounting pads which are located at a central region of the substrate, as taught by Sakai et al., in order to

Art Unit: 2811

reduce short circuits in the device by preventing the formation of bridges across adjacent pads. The combination is motivated by the teachings of Sakai et al. who point out the advantages of using the mounting pads layout as depicted in figure 6a (column 2, lines 13-53).

Regarding claims 15-16, Lach et al. teach in figure 2 a solder mask 42 being in direct contact with the sidewall and a portion of the top surface of the first mounting pads 27, since solder mask 42 is in direct contact with the outer edge of the first mounting pads 27, and thus is in direct contact with the sidewall of the first mounting pads. The broad recitation of the claim does not require the solder mask to cover the entire sidewall of the first mounting pads.

3. Claims 2-4, 8-10 and 14 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Lach et al. and Sakai et al., as applied to claims 1 and 7 above, and further in view of Admitted Prior Art (APA).

Lach et al. and Sakai et al. teach substantially the entire claimed structure, as applied to claims 1 and 7 above, except bumps attach to both the top surface and side surfaces of the second mounting pads.

APA teaches in figure 2 a BT substrate structure of flip chip package wherein each of the patterned circuit layer is formed by a copper foil layer defined by photo lithographic

Art Unit: 2811

and etching processes, and bumps attach to both the top surface and side surfaces of the second mounting pads (pages 1-2).

It would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to attach bumps to both the top surface and side surfaces of the second mounting pads in Lach et al. and Sakai et al.'s device in order to increase the contact area between the bumps and the second mounting pads.

Regarding claims 4 and 10, Saki et al. and APA teach that the pitch of the first mounting pads is smaller than the pitch of the second mounting pad (pages 2-3). It would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to form the pitch of the first mounting pads smaller than the pitch of the second mounting pad in Lach et al.'s device in order to reduce short circuits in the device by preventing the formation of bridges across adjacent pads.

4. Claims 4 and 10 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Lach et al., Saki et al. and APA, as applied to claims 1 and 7 above, and further in view of Katchmar (6,194,782).

Lach et al., Sakai et al. and APA teach substantially the entire claimed structure, as applied to claims 1 and 7 above, except the pitch of the first mounting pads being smaller than the pitch of the second mounting pad.

Art Unit: 2811

Katchmar teaches in figure 5 the pitch of the first mounting pads (of bumps 40) is smaller than the pitch of the second mounting pad (of bumps 24). It would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to form the pitch of the first mounting pads smaller than the pitch of the second mounting pad in Lach et al. and APA's device in order to reduce short circuits in the device by preventing the formation of bridges across adjacent pads.

Response to Arguments

5. Applicant's arguments with respect to claims 1-5 and 7-16 have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection.

Conclusion

6. Applicant's amendment necessitated the new ground(s) of rejection presented in this Office action. Accordingly, **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL**. See MPEP §

Art Unit: 2811

706.07(a). Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).


A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the date of this final action.

Papers related to this application may be submitted to Technology center (TC) 2800 by facsimile transmission. Papers should be faxed to TC 2800 via the TC 2800 Fax center located in Crystal Plaza 4, room 4-C23. The faxing of such papers must conform with the notice published in the Official Gazette, 1096 OG 30 (November 15, 1989). The Group 2811 Fax Center number is (703) 308-7722 and 308-7724. The Group 2811 Fax Center is to be used only for papers related to Group 2811 applications.

Art Unit: 2811

Any inquiry concerning this communication or any earlier communication from the Examiner should be directed to *Examiner Nadav* whose telephone number is **(703) 308-8138**. The Examiner is in the Office generally between the hours of 7 AM to 3 PM (Eastern Standard Time) Monday through Friday. If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Tom Thomas, can be reached at **(703) 308-2772**.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application should be directed to the **Technology Center Receptionists** whose telephone number is **308-0956**

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Ori Nadav". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Ori" and last name "Nadav" clearly distinguishable.

O.N.
May 5, 2003

ORI NADAV
PATENT EXAMINER
TECHNOLOGY CENTER 2800